

**APPROVED  
 EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
 100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE, 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR CHAMBERS  
 FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA  
 THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2010 – 6:30 P.M.**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Cumulative Attendance</b>	
		<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Dr. Magdalene Lewis, Chair	P	4	0
Laura Clark, Vice Chair	A	3	1
Chase Adams	A	2	2
Alec Anderson	A	1	3
Shezette Blue-Small	A	3	1
Lu Deaner	A	3	1
Joseph Discepola	A	2	1
Edna Elijah	A	3	1
Elaine Fiore	P	1	0
Roland Foulkes	P	2	0
Nancy Green [6:45 arr.]	P	2	0
Trisha Halliday	P	2	0
Katie Leach [6:35 arr.]	P	2	0
Alan Levy	P	2	2
Dr. Maureen Persi, Ed.D.	A	2	2
Lillian Small	P	4	0

Appointed members to the Board: 16  
 Needed to constitute a quorum: 9

**Staff**

Julie Richards, Staff Liaison  
 Charles Webster  
 Brigitte Chiappetta, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

As of this date, there are 16 appointed members to the Board, which means 9 would constitute a quorum.

**A. Opening**

Chair Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

- **Guest Introductions (taken out of order)**

Mr. Foulkes introduced his mother, Mrs. Foulkes, a long-time educator in Broward County.

- **Introduce New Member: Elaine Fiore (taken out of order)**

Mrs. Fiore introduced herself, saying that she has taught with Broward County Schools for the past 16 years. She now teaches Elementary School.

### **Announcements (taken out of order)**

Chair Lewis announced that Dr. Persi's mother has passed away and she expressed the Board's condolences.

- **Attendance and Sign-in**

It was noted that Shezette Blue-Small will no longer be with the Board, as she has been appointed the Assistant Principal at Cypress Creek Elementary, and they meet at the same time as this Board.

[Ms. Leach arrived at 6:35 pm.]

It was noted there was not a quorum in attendance.

Chair Lewis stated they will look at their agenda, reminding the Board they cannot vote on any items.

- **Approve Minutes (June 2010)**

Mr. Foulkes asked that the next to last sentence in the third from the bottom paragraph on page 11 be changed to read: "He also announced World Refugee Day, which will be celebrated on Sunday, June 20, but was celebrated in Broward on Monday, June 14, 2010, in Hollywood at the Seminole Hard Rock Cafe."

Mr. Foulkes also asked that, in the following sentence, the time for the Diversity Committee Meeting be changed from 8:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Ms. Halliday wondered on page 5, paragraph 7, if the sentence should read "in Broward County" instead of "in the east." The Board decided to wait for further clarification before deciding on the change.

Chair Lewis reiterated that they cannot vote on these changes at this meeting. They will have to wait for the next meeting when they have a full slate of members in attendance.

### **B. Communications to City Commission**

- **None**

### **C. Current Business**

## **1. Student Members to the Education Advisory Board**

Chair Lewis reported that Ms. Fiore will see that the Board gets students from the school where her husband teaches (Stranahan High). Ms. Fiore mentioned that her husband teaches a teacher preparation course and there would be several interested students.

Ms. Small said she will go back to Fort Lauderdale High School and try to get more students from there. Chair Lewis said she will go to Dillard.

Mr. Foulkes commented that at the end of the last meeting he had asked Ms. Richards if there was a written policy about having students on the Board. She had told him there was past discussions and these would be reflected in prior minutes. He reported that he had reviewed the minutes and noted discussions on the topic. He also mentioned that at the last meeting he had brought up the adult community students in the City, a quarter of a million students who have no voice in the District. He put together a one-page guideline for the Board, which would allow for reaching out to students in an organized, consistent way and making sure that there are students from differing areas of the educational system represented at the Board meetings. The students would be advisors to the Advisory Board. He handed out copies of his guideline for review.

[Ms. Green arrived at 6:45 pm.]

Chair Lewis asked Ms. Richards to send a copy of Mr. Foulkes' guidelines to the absent members so that they can review it. Ms. Small suggested that they table the topic and that the members who are present peruse it later. Mr. Foulkes will email the document to Ms. Richards, who will email it to the absent members. Ms. Small asked that the document be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Chair Lewis asked the Board members who were present to come prepared with suggestions regarding the document at the next meeting.

Mr. Levy wondered if they were going to limit student participation to high schools. Chair Lewis replied that so far they have limited it to high schools, but they will consider adult education students at the next meeting, per Mr. Foulkes' suggestion. Mr. Foulkes added that the students may be adults, but still be juniors and seniors.

Chair Lewis remarked that they should get as many students as possible involved because the students need as much help as they can get.

Mr. Foulkes pointed out that in his document he had identified the months in which most of the discussions of student participation took place.

## **D. Old/Ongoing Business**

**1. School Adoptions and Wish Lists: Lauderdale Manors, Sunland Park, Arthur Ashe**

Ms. Small reported that the wish list for Lauderdale Manors remains the same. They are still working on male mentors for the young male students. There is a new principal whom she has not met yet, but she plans to do so after the elections.

Ms. Fiore remarked that on Proctor & Gamble's website, there is a hygiene kit for girls and one for boys of 5<sup>th</sup> grade level. A school can go on their website and indicate how many students they have and the kits will be shipped free. Members of the Board could order them for the school if they make arrangements with the school first.

There was no one present to report on Sunland Park.

Chair Lewis announced there is a new principal at Arthur Ashe. She also reported that the school had requested money for field trips and her neighborhood Golden Heights HOA will contribute funds to assist. She will try to find out what the school's needs are for the coming year.

**2. Other Reports/Updates/Discussion**

**a. Reports & Updates:**

**1) City Staff Liaison – Julie Richards**

Ms. Richards provided an update on the last Communications to the City Commission. The Commission approved the Board's motion that they demand the School Board reinstate the funding for the magnet programs, and the Commission requested that a resolution of support be sent. That resolution was approved at the last meeting and is now being routed for signatures. Once that has been done, it will be sent to the School Board. She will get copies for all the members of this Board.

**2) Student Members to EAB**

No student members were present.

**3) Broward County School District – C. Webster**

Mr. Webster reported that the School Board has an issue with a recent report on the percentage of black males graduating. They are looking into where the percentages came from. Mr. Webster thought the numbers should be 57%, which is higher than the report, but Mr. Niles said that even 57% is not good enough. The schools are going to redouble their efforts to try and improve on that number.

Mr. Webster remarked that, notwithstanding the FCAT results which are still being looked at, they are still an "A" district, which is good and is to the credit of many who are here at this meeting.

He noted that August 23 will be the first day of school and they are having the Million Father March. They ask fathers to accompany their children to school so that hopefully some of them will become more involved in the school and be more visible on campus.

He announced that on the first day of school, Mr. Notter will be stopping by Sunland Park Elementary School at 10:00 a.m.

Chair Lewis asked if churches were sent announcements about the Million Father March. Mr. Webster brought some extra announcements for the Board members to distribute, and he said the Committee members had been given announcements to pass out, but he is not sure where they ended up.

Ms. Leach mentioned that her daughter is starting her first year at Virginia Sherman Young and volunteered to take some flyers for New Student Orientation the next day.

Mr. Webster added that this year they sent out electronic notifications to all principals. They also sent out an announcement via the Parent League Message, but do not want to overdo it.

He said that the Million Father March helps males feel more comfortable in the school environment. If the males show up at the school during the year, it makes a positive impression on the students. Last year they had almost 37,000 dads participate, and they want to improve those numbers this year.

Chair Lewis asked Mr. Webster how the rehiring of teachers is going. Mr. Webster said there were 536 teachers on lay-off during this year, plus 19 from last year. They rehired 463 since July 1. Ninety-two instructional staff remain on lay-off; five of those are in core subject areas. Of the 777 non-instructional staff members who were placed on layoff, 195 have been rehired so far. None of these hirings are a result of the new federal jobs bill, but are the result of attrition and infusion of Title I funding. The goal is to bring everybody back.

Ms. Leach asked Mr. Webster if there had been any discussion about reinstating the magnet funding with the \$52M they are receiving from the federal government. He replied that there is conversation on that, and the School Board is waiting to find out how the State will be implementing that and what the restrictions are. The Board will have a workshop on August 30 at 1:00 p.m.

Ms. Richards commented that Commissioner Roberts had provided copies of a letter from Superintendent Notter that he wanted the members to have copies of, so she distributed those.

Mr. Foulkes asked Mr. Webster if they could receive the Million Father March information via email. Mr. Foulkes mentioned that a number of black men going to campus have shared concerns about them not always feeling welcome. He hoped that there will be some protocol given to principals and others to make them feel welcome. He noted that they are grandparents, mentors and other relatives, not just fathers.

Mr. Webster remarked that they it is not just black men, but all men, and some women too. They have a sticker that parents can use to get time off from work to take their child to school. He said he will send out an email the next day to bring out issues with the STAR program.

Ms. Small brought up lack of publicity for the project, and Mr. Webster said they have been working on it. They go to the schools and do what they can. Mr. Williams has been very active with the church community and has put the word out.

Ms. Leach asked if Mr. Webster could email a PDF version of the flyer, and he said he would send it to Ms. Richards by the next morning.

Mr. Foulkes remarked that he understood the District's Communications Director is no longer on staff and that may have hindered some of the information getting out. Mr. Webster said there were two people filling in temporarily. They are also working on a strategic communications plan.

Mr. Foulkes commented on Dillard Elementary, which is now an "F" school. Just a few years ago, it was an "A" school, and then went to "C-" by last year. He wondered how a school goes from an "A/B" to an "F." He said it raises a number of questions in terms of modifying test results or the test itself, which was different this year, or perhaps a combination of the two. He was curious what the District is doing beyond asking the State Department of Education to review the process of grading the tests.

Mr. Webster answered that there have been issues with the scores, and it was actually the Superintendent and district staff that brought up what they thought were anomalies with the grades. The Florida School Board is still looking at that, but he has not heard anything yet. He is waiting to see if something else comes up, and it is not unique to Dillard Elementary. Mr. Webster stated that their main concern at this time is to discover if the tests results are accurate.

Mr. Levy commented that years ago he participated in a program which connected executives with school principals. It was inspired by the business community, and that year Dillard Elementary went from an "F" to an "A." He remarked that it is possible to make that transition either way in one year. Mr. Levy said the program he was involved in was called the "Executive Program," and its purpose was to determine what the business community could do for the schools. One thing they did was incentive

programs for students, and it was highly successful. Mr. Webster said he would look into it.

Ms. Small reported that she sent Ms. Richards some information on "Vote No on 8" and asked her to disseminate it. It concerns smaller class size and saving public school funding. Ms. Richards brought copies to the meeting. Ms. Small asked that this topic be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Ms. Leach wondered if there was funding attached to it. Mr. Webster thought there was an amendment to do with funding, but he is not sure. If it is not passed, he said it will cost the Broward Schools an additional \$79M.

Ms. Leach stated that her understanding of the amendment was that it was looking at flexibility in enrollment numbers. The original amendment had limited class size to 18 for elementary, 22 for middle school and 25 for high school. A problem arises when a class has reached 18 and one more child comes to enroll. Her understanding was that the amendment was looking for flexibility for that 19<sup>th</sup> child.

**E. New/Future Business (none)**

**F. Next Meeting and Closing**

Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

[Minutes prepared by J. Rubin, Prototype, Inc.]